California State University, Long Beach
DAILY 49ER

Vol. LXVII, Issue 73 | www.daily49er.com | Thursday, February 11, 2016

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH, LIBRARY ARCHIVES

Accreditation commision dings school on diversity

People of color at Cal State Long Beach deemed underrepresented within the faculty.

By Erik Öhrström
Staff Writer

The faculty at Cal State Long Beach are not diverse enough, according to a final interim report from a university accreditation commision.

The 2015 report, which looked favorably on all other aspects of the university, pointed out that professors do not look like their students. While people of color make up 70 percent of the student population at CSULB, only 37 percent of faculty represent minority ethnic groups, according to accreditation commission Western Association of Schools and Colleges' report.

"Students are more likely to feel comfortable and seek these relationships with individuals they identify with," Interim Provost Dowell said. "A diverse faculty can also provide knowledge about other cultures through their own personal insight, further enriching a student's educational experience."

In 2014, Latinos made up 27 percent of the student population, but only 8 percent of tenure or tenure-track

see **DIVERSITY** page 3

Karen Sawyer | Daily 49er

All you need is...

Valentine's day is on Sunday, and although the Daily 49er staff will be busy producing Monday's issue of the paper in their suffocating, air conditioner-less newsroom, some of its editors will make time to celebrate the occasion with their special someones. The rest will wallow in their loneliness and pretend the vacancy in their hearts does not affect them. Go to page 4 to read the Daily 49er's thoughts and plans for Feb. 14.

Column

Keep the comics coming

Current comic conventions cater to popular culture instead of true graphic novel fans.

By Lauren Torres
Staff Writer

As crazy as it sounds, comic conventions used to be about comics.

If not comics, then comic-related movies or shows, science fiction and sometimes even board games. Now, thanks to Hollywood, comic conventions come with a red carpet, "E! News" coverage, and a swarm of fans who've never picked up a comic in their life.

The first and only time I attended the San Diego Comic-Con was about a decade ago. It was the biggest convention I had been to, but still modest and easy to navigate. Cosplayers walked the floors, occasionally one Spider-Man would bump into the other, but there weren't enough costume-clad people to, say, assemble the entire Justice League at a moment's notice.

The most exciting thing about that year was that my favorite artist, Tim Sale, was there signing autographs.

Dan Casey, a reporter for Wired and senior editor for Nerdist, describes the first comic convention ever held in San Diego as a "small, one-day affair" with two celebrity guests in attendance. Now, if someone wants to attend a convention, they have to keep in mind that they're squeezing through intense crowds because Jennifer Lawrence or the cast of "Once Upon a Time" are in the building.

No true nerd is going to moan and groan about waiting for hours to see a panel about a Marvel movie. But when you're competing for a seat

see **COMICS**, page 6

Yasmin Cortez | Daily 49er 2015 File Photo

A cosplayer dressed up as Spiderman exclaims over the finding of a comic at Long Beach Comic Con 2015.

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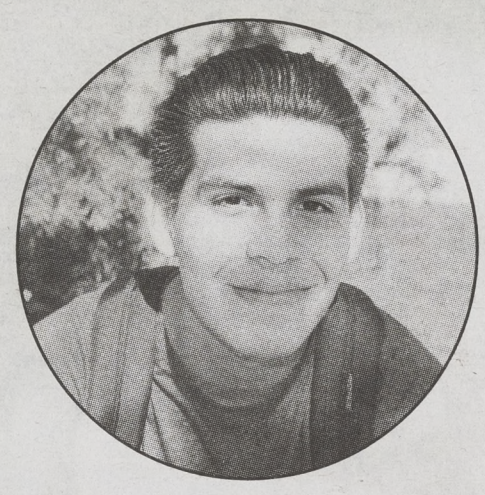
CAMPUS VOICE

THE CITY OF LONG BEACH HAS BEEN DEBATING FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS ON WHETHER TO MAKE MEDICAL MARIJUANA DELIVERY LEGAL. LAST TUESDAY, THE CITY COUNCIL, DECIDED TO NIX THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE. SIMILAR MARIJUANA INITIATIVES COULD STILL BE ON THE BALLOT BOX IN THE STATE ELECTION.

"WOULD YOU BENEFIT FROM SUCH AN ORDINANCE?"

"I already use one. Isn't that already legal here? I've been using it for a little over [a] year, and I haven't had a problem with it. It takes about an hour. I don't know what changes it's gonna make."

–Gabriel Gil, graduate kinesiology major



"No, I wouldn't want it. I do in the sense of the actual medical patients, but I feel like there's too many people who abuse that."

–Edward Chavez, freshman pre-kinesiology major

"I mean, I personally think I'm very neutral towards it because it's not really any of my business...I don't have a use for a medical card. So if it passes, cool. If it doesn't pass, cool. I'm very Switzerland in this perspective."

– Lezly Zavala, junior psychology major

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Forks go on the left side, memos on the right

The Career Development Center hosted business etiquette luncheon with corporate partner Enterprise.

BY ERIK ÖHRSTRÖM
Staff Writer

Students gathered for a business lunch and a humorous demonstration of the value of applying etiquette in their professional lives after college Wednesday.

In the well-decorated dining hall, Enterprise talent acquisition manager Sherron Hawkins led the demonstration in the Chartroom at Cal State Long Beach.

CSULB's Career Development Center has traditionally arranged a Business Etiquette Luncheon nearly every year with its employer-partner and corporate sponsor Enterprise in order to properly demonstrate how a meal between professionals should proceed. The talent acquisition manager at Enterprise, Sherron Hawkins, led the seminar.

After introducing herself, she dove straight into the appetizer with one sarcastic piece of advice after the other. She explained that she learned how to apply business etiquette when she was younger, during a period when her family lived in England. A majority of the students were dressed up in business attire and prepared for a stricter atmosphere than what it turned out to be.

"I am not an expert, but I am very well-phrased when it comes to dinner expertise," Hawkins said before she asked students to introduce themselves to everyone around each table. "Do you guys know each other a little better now than what you did 60 seconds ago?"

The communications coordinator at the Career Development Center, Terri Armstrong, said that this interactive seminar is one of their most popular events. She said she thinks that this is one piece of professional development that students do not get a lot of exposure to.

"I do not think that our students really know how to conduct themselves in those business situations where food is involved or when alcohol is involved," Armstrong said. "That is the purpose of this event; to give the students a practical experience."

For practical reasons the students were not served real alcoholic beverages during this occasion. But the handling of such beverages is typically a common problem in the business industry, according to Sherron, who encouraged the students to gently sip on them during the meal.

"You have to know your tolerance." Hawkins said. "Every conference at Enterprise, someone has been fired for drinking too much alcohol. When it is free, some people cannot control themselves."

Throughout the seminar, Sherron regularly gave advice on interview techniques and how to interact in such formal situations. In her business, she is part of the recruiting process, so she has interviewed many applicants throughout her time there. She mentioned that she has met some students from Cal State Long Beach who have made a good impression during this process.

"We want to make sure that we are helping students in their entire preparation for when they enter the workforce," Armstrong said. "Making a good impression is something that we are constantly emphasizing. We want employers to know that we are preparing our students in a lot of various capacities."

When the dessert was served, Sherron complimented the students for doing an excellent job, and those who were interested in eventual future job opportunities had the chance to come up and talk to her.

"I learned a lot of new things today," said Abhishek Chature, a public administration graduate student. "I think she did a pretty good demonstration of business etiquette. It was a different experience."

DIVERSITY

continued from page 1

professors, according to the interim report and corroborating California State University information.

African-Americans are also among the underrepresented groups, comprising 3.9 percent of the student population and 3.2 percent of tenure and tenure-track faculty. But former advisor of the Black Student Union, Brandon Gamble, became a professor at CSULB because he wanted to offer help to all minorities and give something back to society. When he was an undergraduate student, he had mentors who were involved in the union and inspired him to get involved.

"If I wanted to work with a larger population of black students, I would probably want to go down south where they have historically black colleges," Gamble, an associate psychology professor, said. "However, I am here through very interesting circumstances. And while I am here, I want to make the most of it and offer my help to all students of diverse backgrounds."

Dowell said he thinks it is important to understand how a diverse faculty can help improve learning outcomes among students of color by serving as their mentors too.

During the last hiring season, deans from the different universities throughout the CSU system met with the interim provost to discuss the importance of having a diverse faculty when working with a diverse student population.

The campus is currently preparing to implement strategies that will help diversify faculty. One of the strategies will be to form a hiring panel trained by the Office of Equity and Diversity. The office will then distribute the positions to different professional associations that represent minorities. This is what Dowell said will create the "faculty of the future."

"Every staff or faculty member at Cal State Long Beach is dedicated to student achievement," Dowell said. "The faculty of the future is those individuals who have been identified through a rigorous process as being the best candidate to fill a given opportunity, are experts in their respective fields and who share that dedication to ensure that students are receiving the best educational experience."

Gamble thinks that the involvement of students in research on ethnicity is the key to an even alignment between students and faculty in the future, and that it will potentially draw more people to the university.

"That is part of the reason why I switched from being the Black Student Union advisor, because I wanted to focus more on the idea of promoting research," Gamble said. "People are doing things in research within the community that are exciting and it is ethnic specific. But it may also help to draw more students and get them excited about research, and potentially join the ranks of doctoral levels to become professors."

Together with other faculty members, Gamble is currently working on a black research summit, and they are hoping to carry out a Latino research summit during the fall.

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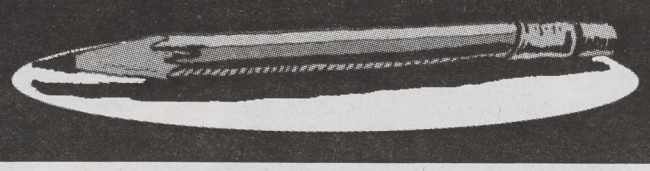

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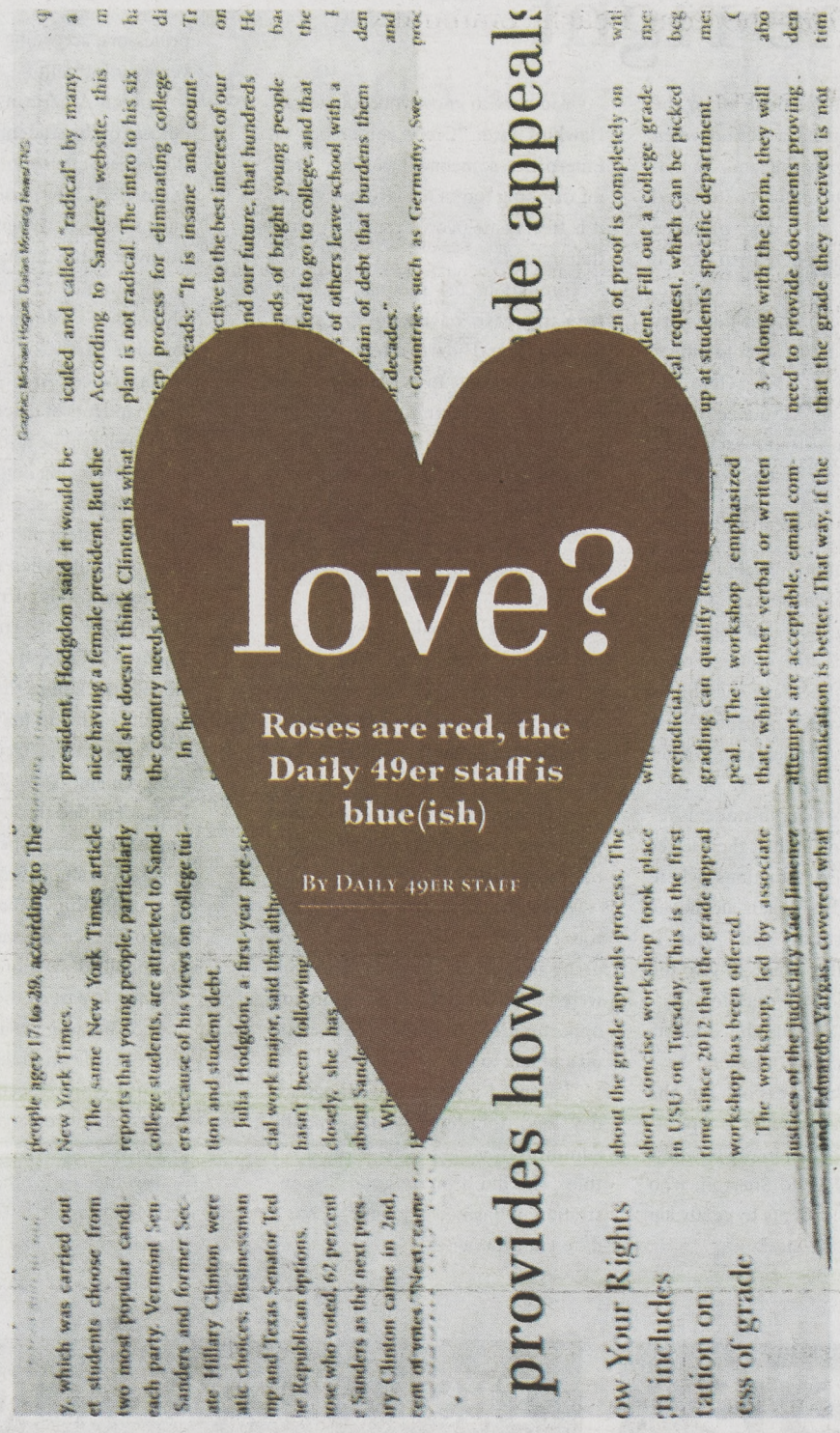
Graphic Michael Hogan, Daily 49er Staff
de appeals
love?
Roses are red, the Daily 49er staff is blue(ish)
By Daily 49er staff
provides how
people ages 17 to 39, according to The New York Times.
The same New York Times article reports that young people, particularly college students, are attracted to Sanders because of his views on college tuition and student debt.
Julia Hodgdon, a first-year pre-
ow Your Rights
n includes
tation on
ess of grade
about the grade appeals process. The short, concise workshop took place in USU on Tuesday. This is the first time since 2012 that the grade appeal workshop has been offered.
The workshop, led by associate
justices of the judiciary Yael Jimenez
and Edmardo Vargas, covered what
president, Hodgdon said it would be
nice having a female president. But she said she doesn't think Clinton is what the country needs
In her
iculed and called "radical" by many. According to Sanders' website, this plan is not radical. The intro to his six
tep process for eliminating college
reads: "It is insane and counter-
ective to the best interest of our
nd our future, that hundreds
nds of bright young people
ford to go to college, and that
of others leave school with a
ntain of debt that burdens them
r decades."
Countries such as Germany, Swe-
of proof is completely on
dent. Fill out a college grade
al request, which can be picked
up at students' specific department.
3. Along with the form, they will
need to provide documents proving
that the grade they received is not
prejudicial.
grading can qualify for an ap-
peal. The workshop emphasized
that, while either verbal or written
attempts are acceptable, email com-
munication is better. That way, if the

The Daily 49er staff discusses their plans for Valentine's Day, as well as complaining about the stormy, unpredictable seas of love.

Miranda Andrade-Ceja
Arts & Life Editor

Love is dead.

And no, I'm not just saying that because this Valentine's Day I will be waking up at 7:45 a.m. to go to my second job and then finish off the day sitting in the newsroom, hunched over a computer. I'm saying it because someone has to. I'm saying it because in another couple of decades, when you're fishing bleu cheese-stuffed olives out of a briny mason jar and wondering why your dog (who is eternally licking her crotch) is getting more action than you are — you will know that I spoke the truth.

And you will thank me.

Micayla Vermeeren
Opinions Editor

As much as I hate to admit it, I really love Valentine's Day. I've never had a proper Valentine and will be the first to say the barrage of Pepto-Bismol pink decorations get on my nerves, but at the end of the day, I just can't bring myself to fundamentally disagree with a day dedicated to celebrating love. So, in between my two jobs and the knock-off chocolates, I know I'll be sneaking all day, I'll be sending gross texts to my best friends and mom, finding some sort of animal to cuddle and letting the fourteenth serve as a reminder that we are all drowning in the love we usually don't take the time to appreciate.

Ariana Sawyer
News Editor

My wife got really excited about Valentine's Day and bought me some presents two weeks in advance. I had to look at them there on the nightstand, wrapped in pastel pink with little silver hearts, every night. It was like Valentine's had transformed into Christmas with a painted blue owl bedside lamp for a tree. I started feeling pressured, so I went to the mall and spent most of the time in that store with all the puppies in fishtanks. Depressed by that point, I spent twice the amount of money I was supposed to. In the end, we exchanged gifts a week early. I'm not sure what we'll be doing on the fourteenth of February.

Josh Barajas
Sports Editor

"I don't give a sh*t about Valentine's Day."

Greg Diaz
Editor-in-chief

"I hate to break it to you, but you'll all be working."

Trang Le
Photo Editor

"Are we speed dating each other?"

Madison D'Ornellas
Managing Editor

This Valentine's Day, I will remember. I will hold the cat for way too long. I will try to play my mom's piano. I will make dinner at home. And it won't be macaroni. I will, begrudgingly, write some poetry. I will most likely sing and dance to Beyonce´ and Bowie and Oasis in my car all day, super loud with too much gusto. I will sit and happily cry to "Sea of Love" by Cat Power. But mostly, I will spend the fourteenth with friends who are coworkers and coworkers who are friends, whom I love dearly. And, of course, I will be in the newsroom.

Liam Brown
Copy Editor

Wait, Sunday is Valentine's Day? Don't blame me for not putting a holiday with central imagery involving a magical flying infant randomly shooting arrows toward people's bodies at the top of my calendar, but I honestly don't have any reason to even acknowledge V-Day this year. For one thing, I've never had a real Valentine myself (cue somber music), and the classic compulsion to buy flowers and chocolates for the gal or guy you love goes kaput when you're like me – living on a college budget. My significant other would have to look forward to microwave burritos and Honey Nut Cheerios as a Valentine's Day gift, and that kind of unpleasantly mismatched present would be the kind of embarrassment neither one of us would want to live up to.

Plus, all communication between me and my Valentine would have to be written in proper AP style, of course. Stylebook by the phone = not too romantic.

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let's get dancey

A choreographed contemporary dance sets the mood for the Long Beach community.

BY NATALIE RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

Conventionality exists, even in the world of dancing.

The 2016 Contemporary Dance concert aims to break past the barriers of the conventional by dishing out bold and tenacious performances, according to Cal State Long Beach choreographer and dancer, Madison Clark.

"Sometimes as dancers and choreographers morph into adulthood, sometimes taking risks becomes less exciting and happens less often, which is what the whole concert is all about," Clark said. "It is young dancers taking risks in their performances, choreographers taking on big ideas and putting their own perspectives in front of the audience, and designers challenging themselves to tackle on whatever it takes to make the choreographers' visions come to life."

Clark said that the entire concept behind this concert is based on taking risks.

The concert consists of eight dances, offering viewers glances into various methods of dance by framing them in a contemporary style. musical inspirations and artistic collaborations, according to concert director Sophie Monat.

Concert director Sophie Monat says that the performance is based on a number of artistic collaborations — namely, the choreographers. The Contemporary Dance Concert features the work of nine CSULB choreographers.

"Clark said the event will be a great opportunity for Long Beach, the dance community, and for the CSULB student body because the majority of the show is produced by the students.

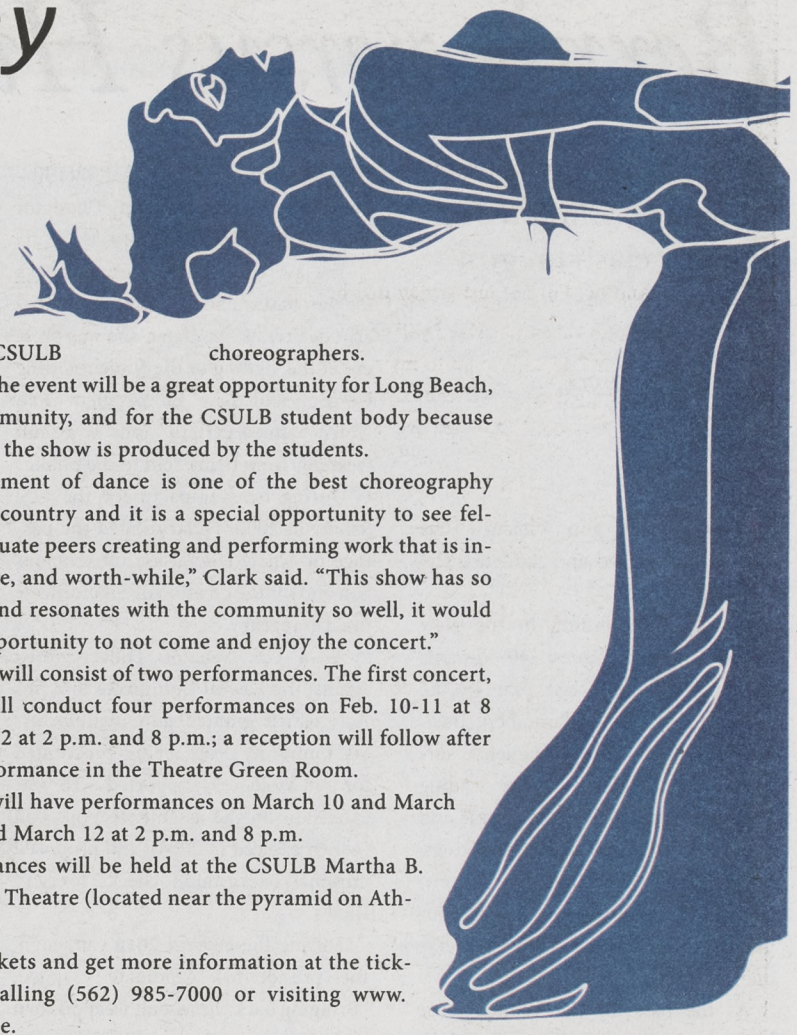
"The department of dance is one of the best choreography schools in the country and it is a special opportunity to see fellow, undergraduate peers creating and performing work that is inventive, creative, and worth-while," Clark said. "This show has so much variety and resonates with the community so well, it would be a missed opportunity to not come and enjoy the concert."

The concert will consist of two performances. The first concert, Program A, will conduct four performances on Feb. 10-11 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 12 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; a reception will follow after the 8 p.m. performance in the Theatre Green Room.

Program B will have performances on March 10 and March 11 at 8 p.m. and March 12 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.

All performances will be held at the CSULB Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theatre (located near the pyramid on Atherton).

Purchase tickets and get more information at the ticket office, by calling (562) 985-7000 or visiting www.csulb.edu/dance.



VECTOR4U.COM

live music calendar

BY MIRANDA ANDRADE-CEJA
Arts & Life Editor

Go out, see a show. Dance with your friends or on your own (there's no shame in some Risky Business). Anyway, here are some live shows coming up this week.

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	(Next) Thursday
SUN and SAIL CLUB Anglo Jackson Beastmaker The Federal Underground 102 Pine Ave $10 8 p.m. 18+	8 Good Fingers Fingerprints 420 E Fourth St 7 -10 p.m. Free No RSVP needed All ages	Celik Brothers Sister Crowley Sharkmuffin 4th Street Vine 2142 E Fourth St Free 21+	Timon Marmex The Bvrnays Masses Action Friend Alex's Bar 2913 E Anaheim St 9 p.m. $13-$15 21+	Jackie Mendez and the Delirians Harvelle's 201 E. Broadway 8 p.m. $10 21+

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Bernie versus Hillary on gun control

Despite sharing a party affiliation, Clinton and Sanders clash on gun policy.

BY SCOTT SCHULTZ
Contributing Writer

Recent gun violence has shocked and saddened the nation.

According to the New York Times, 40 campus shootings occurred last year in the United States alone. Bloomberg Businessweek estimated gun violence surpassed car accidents as the leading cause of preventable death last year, and almost 33,000 people died in shootings.

Continued shootings from Connecticut to California over the last couple years have continued to keep everyone on edge.

As the race for the White House heats up, college students should be concerned about what the next president will do to combat gun violence.

Last week, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton won the Iowa caucus, beating populist Senator Bernie Sanders by a small margin. This week, Sanders won the New Hampshire primary, questionably because he hails from the neighboring state of Vermont.

Both Democratic candidates have distinct records on guns. Clinton has been a consistent advocate for gun control throughout her political career. In 1993, she supported President Bill Clinton when he signed the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act into law.

The law required background checks for purchases made from licensed firearm dealers. A year later, she was present at the signing of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act, which banned certain kinds of assault weapons from being sold to the public.

During her campaign for the U.S. Senate in 2000, Hillary urged the passage of a new federal assault weapons ban and for the creation of a nationwide firearm registry.

As a U.S. Senator, Hillary voted against the Lawful Commerce in Arms Act (which granted gun manufacturers immunity from being prosecuted for gun violence), supported a 10-year extension on the assault weapons ban (which expired in 2004), and proposed criminal background checks for gun shows.

During the current 2016 campaign, the presidential candidate stated, "Bringing back the assault weapons ban and creating a ban on high-capacity magazines would help limit gun violence."

On gun restrictions, Sanders has had a more mixed history than Secretary Clinton. As a congressman, Bernie voted against the Brady Bill five times and supported the Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

As a senator, he supported instant background checks, bans on armor-piercing bullets, restrictions on sales of certain military-grade assault weapons, backed President Obama's recent executive order on firearms, but has been ambiguous about three-day waiting periods.

There have been attempts to justify his stance, as he was raised in the rural state of Vermont, where guns are a part of daily life and culture.

The Republican Party candidates have spoken out against most gun restrictions. Real estate mogul Donald Trump said, "A gun free zone is like meat to these animals," referring to criminals. Texas Senator Ted Cruz said, "We don't stop the bad guys by taking away our guns; we stop the bad guys by using our guns." Florida Senator Marco Rubio said that if elected president, he'll reverse the executive order on gun restrictions implemented by President Obama last January.

There is an infusion of cash in our political system from the gun lobby, with organizations such as the National Rifle Association spending almost $26 million during the 2012 presidential election cycle, according to OpenSecrets.com

The financial ties make it almost impossible to pass any kind of meaningful regulation, even if the public supports it.

OLIVIER DOULIERY | ABACA PRESS | MCT
MomsRising holds a rally in front of the National Rifle Association (NRA) office, in support of common-sense gun regulations March 14, 2013 in Fairfax, Virginia.

VIVIANA RAMOS | DAILY 49ER 2015 FILE PHOTO
Green power ranger and Super Robot Chogokin Megazord, from Mighty Morphin Power Rangers cosplayers, at Long Beach Comic Con.

COMICS

continued from page 1

with people who are there for a "My Little Pony" panel, comic fans can't help but wonder "What are you even doing here?"

Comic conventions are now about anything that exists in entertainment, and the line is drawn somewhere before "MTV reality shows.". Worst of all, this problem might never be addressed because real comic fans are in the minority now.

As long as conventions keep scheduling panels for unrelated, popular entertainment, like "The Big Bang Theory" or "Twilight," people will keep shuffling in, clogging up hallways while comic fans are shoved to the side.

We have enough coverage about movies and television cycling through all forms of news; we don't need these things at comic conventions.

So here's a (graphic) novel idea: let's get rid of all the unrelated Hollywood additions. Let's tell the cast of "American Horror Story" that, no, they can't come in.

Let's make comic conventions about comic books again.

Daily 49er

Editorial Office
Phone (562) 985-8000
Fax (562) 985-7994
1250 Bellflower Blvd., LA4-201
Long Beach, CA
90840-4601

General Manager
Beverly Munson
(562) 985-5736

Design Adviser **Gary Metzker**
Content Adviser **Barbara Kingsley-Wilson**

Business Office
Phone (562) 985-8001
Fax (562) 985-1740
1250 Bellflower Blvd., LA4-203A
Long Beach, CA
90840-4601

Greg Diaz
Editor-in-Chief
eicd49er@gmail.com
(562) 985-7998

Madison D'Ornellas
Managing Editor
managingd49er@gmail.com

News Editor **Ariana Sawyer**
cityd49er@gmail.com
Arts and Life Editor **Miranda Andrade-Ceja**
artsnlifed49er@gmail.com
Sports Editor **Josh Barajas**
sportsd49er@gmail.com
Opinions Editor **Micayla Vermeeren**
opedd49er@gmail.com

Photo Editor **Trang Le**
Design Editor **Emilio Aldea**
Copy Editor **Liam Brown**
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Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.

WEEKEND PREVIEWS

SOFTBALL

BOBBY YAGAKE | DAILY 49ER

Junior right-hander Christina Clermont led the LBSU softball team with 20 wins, 179 strikeouts and 190.2 innings pitched on her way to earning Co-Big West Pitcher of the Year in 2015.

Who: South Dakota
When: Friday at 11:15 a.m.
Where: Eller Media Stadium, Las Vegas, Nevada

Need to know: Friday's matchup with the Coyotes will be Long Beach State's first ever meeting with the University of South Dakota.

The 2016 Summit League preseason coaches' poll selected the Coyotes to finish third in their league. South Dakota returns a pair of all-conference pitchers from last season, junior Rachel Cue and senior Madison Frain.

Who: Syracuse
When: Friday at 1:30 p.m.
Where: Eller Media Stadium, Las Vegas, Nevada

Need to know: The 49ers and the Orange have faced each other every year since 2012. LBSU leads the all-time series 6-2 with Syracuse's last win coming in a 2-1 victory on May 19, 2012.

Senior infielder Corinne Ozanne and sophomore outfielder Maddi Doane will lead Syracuse this season. Both players were named to the College Sports Madness ACC Preseason All-Conference Second Team.

Who: Texas Tech
When: Saturday at 9 a.m.
Where: Eller Media Stadium, Las Vegas, Nevada

Need to know: The 49ers and the Red Raiders have played four times since 1999. LBSU leads the series 3-1 with Texas Tech's lone 2-0 win coming on Feb. 17, 2012.

Outfielder Jordan Bettiol returns for her senior season after leading the Red Raiders with a .374 batting average and 43 runs scored in 2015. Junior Kierra Miles also returns after leading the team with 43 runs batted in.

Who: No. 14 Minnesota
When: Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
Where: Eller Media Stadium, Las Vegas, Nevada

Need to know: LBSU leads the all-time series against the Gophers, 8-2. Minnesota's only two wins against the 49ers came in 1987 and 1993. The last time both teams met, the 49ers came away with a 3-1 win on March 3, 2001.

A player to watch on the Gophers is junior pitcher Sara Groenewegen. The right-hander was named on the USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year Top 50 Watch List.

Who: No. 9 Oklahoma
When: Sunday at 9 a.m.
Where: Eller Media Stadium, Las Vegas, Nevada

Need to know: The 49ers have only won against the Sooners once in ten matchups. Oklahoma leads the all-time series 9-1, but the last time both teams met LBSU got the 2-1 win on Feb. 25, 2011.

The Sooners have two players named to the top 50 collegiate player of the year watch list. Senior outfielder Erin Miller and sophomore pitcher Paige Parker are players to watch in 2016.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

LBSU blocks upset attempt

BY WILL HERNANDEZ
Assistant Sports Editor

After splitting the first two sets, the top-ranked Long Beach State men's volleyball team survived a potential upset by winning the third and fourth set to defeat Cal Baptist 3-1 on the road.

The 49ers (11-2, 8-2) were down 19-15 in the fourth set, but a 6-2 run tied the score at 21. The 49ers ultimately capped off their come-from-behind set victory by scoring four of the last five points on blocks.

Senior middle blocker Taylor Gregory led LBSU to its first win as the No. 1 team in the nation by scoring four straight points at the end of the fourth.

In the first set, sophomore outside hitter Bjarne Huus' kill extended LBSU's lead to 9-4, forcing the Lancers to take a timeout. However, Cal Baptist (7-8, 2-8) bounced back and were down 19-18 late in the first. The 49ers took a 1-0 game lead by closing out the first set 25-20.

The Lancers quickly rebounded in the second set, taking an early 9-5 lead and would win the set by a score of 25-17.

Freshman outside hitter TJ Defalco smashed three straight kills in the third set, giving the 49ers an 11-7 advantage. From there, LBSU went on a 14-9 run to close out the set and win 25-16.

The 49ers will face a reeling USC squad on Friday at 7 p.m. inside the Galen Center.

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WEEKEND PREVIEWS

49ers look to continue winning ways

LBSU is Honolulu bound to avenge one of its two conferene losses this season.

By Grester Celis-Acosta
Staff Writer

The Long Beach State women's basketball team is looking for its sixth and seventh consecutive wins in a weekend that includes a trip to Honolulu, Hawai'i.

The 49ers (17-5, 6-2) visit the Rainbow Wahine (14-9, 7-3) on Thursday and then host UC Santa Barbara (8-15, 5-4) inside the Walter Pyramid on Saturday.

During their five-game run, the 49ers have scored an average of 69.4 points per game while only allowing teams to score an average of 61.6 points. But on Thursday the 49ers take on Hawai'i , a team that's won four straight games and five out of its last six.

"[Hawai'i is] big, physical and skilled," 49er head coach Jody Wynn said.

The first meeting between both teams ended with a 49er loss, 67-55, at the Walter Pyramid on Jan. 7.

"We got to move the ball better than we did last time against them," Wynn said. "I think we were stationary a lot within the offense the first time around and we got to have more player movement and more ball movement."

Junior guard Raven Benton was the only 49er to score in double digits against the Rainbow Wahine. She had 23 points.

Wynn said the offense needs to be aggressive and have great communication to defeat Hawai'i.

"It's going to be loud, they're going to black it out and it's probably going to be packed, so we have to communicate on both ends of the floor and limit our mistakes," Wynn said.

As for Benton, she said that the defense has to play well.

"What our team needs to do is focus on boxing out [players] and stopping them, containing the ball," Benton said. "So if we do what we do on defense then we have a great chance of winning."

Benton has averaged 14 points per game during the current five game run and is averaging 12.8 points per game on the season.

Hawai'i's senior guard Destiny King has been on fire during their four-game run and is averaging 12.25 points per game during the streak.

Wynn said that King is a player that likes to make an impact right away and likes to take over games down the stretch.

"We got to get in front of her and not allow her to get as many touches in the areas that she wants the ball," Wynn said.

Hawai'i in its current four-game run has averaged 62 points per game, but has only allowed 52 points per game.

After Hawai'i, LBSU faces UCSB in their first meeting this season. The Gauchos have lost three out of their last four games, but Wynn said they are still a team to be wary of.

"They're a much improved team," Wynn said. "Their pressure defense is outstanding, so for us taking care of the ball, being able to contain the dribble without fouling is going to be the biggest part of the game."

Wynn added that the Gauchos' backcourt has contributed to creating stout defense.

"Their guards are playing with a lot of freedom offensively and they're playing a dribble drive offense that plays to some of their strengths," Wynn said.

Wynn pointed out that UCSB junior point guard Onome Jemerigbe is one of the fastest guards in the league. Jemerigbe is averaging 6.7 points per game and leads the team in assist, averaging 4.2 per game.

The 49ers face Hawai'i on Thursday at the Stan Sheriff Center; tip off is at 5:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time. On Saturday, LBSU takes on UC Santa Barbara inside the Walter Pyramid at 4 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Ben Hammerton | Daily 49er
LBSU head coach Jody Wynn draws up a play during a timeout in the 49ers' 6257 win over Cal State Fullerton on Jan. 20 inside the Walter Pyramid.

Ben Hammerton | Daily 49er
The LBSU men's basketball team huddles during the 49ers' 81-76 overtime win over Cal State Northridge on Saturday inside the Walter Pyramid.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Who: Cal Poly (8-14, 2-7)
When: Thursday at 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid
TV: ESPN3

Need to know: When Long Beach State (12-12, 6-3) and Cal Poly meet on Thursday, the 49ers will be looking to avenge a four-point overtime loss from earlier in the season. The Mustangs sent their Jan. 16 matchup with LBSU to overtime with a late three pointer and ended up with the 96-92 win.

The 49ers lead the all-time series 42-31, but have now dropped two straight games against the Mustangs.

As of last week, The Mustangs sit in last place of the Big West Conference. Cal Poly is the worst defensive team in the league, allowing an average of 76 points per game. The Mustangs also attempt the most field goals per game in the league (61.0), but have the worst field goal percentage (43.3).

Who: UC Davis (10-12, 5-4)
When: Saturday at 5:30 p.m.
Where: The Pavilion, Davis

Need to know: LBSU and UC Davis first met on Feb. 2, 1960; the 49ers came away with a 77-52 win. However, both teams didn't officially play each other again for nearly 45 years.

LBSU leads the all-time series 18-4, but two of those Aggie wins came last season. After winning 11 straight games from 2010-14, the 49ers failed to get a win against UC Davis in 2015. LBSU snapped UC Davis' short streak earlier this season after a 59-47 win on Jan. 9.

This season, the Aggies are worst offense in the Big West, averaging only 64.5 points per game. However, UC Davis also owns the second best defense in the conference, allowing only 65.1 points per game.

Senior forward Josh Fox leads the Aggies with 14.3 points

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Who: USC (2-9, 2-7)
When: Friday at 7 p.m.
Where: Galen Center, Los Angeles

Need to know: LBSU leads the all-time series against the Trojans, 57-46, and has lost 12 of its last 15 matches against Southern California. However, the 49ers won the last meeting between the two earlier this season. LBSU snapped a four-game losing streak against USC in a 3-1 win on Jan. 16.

USC's only wins this season came against Pepperdine on Jan. 26 and against UC San Diego on Saturday. The Trojans are in second to last place, only winless UC San Diego sits below them.

Sophomore opposite Jon Rivera and junior outside hitter Lucas Yoder are the only two players on the team averaging over two kills per set. Rivera is averaging 3.18 kills while Yoder is averaging 2.52 kills per set.

Ben Hammerton | Daily 49er
Senior middle blocker Taylor Gregory passes on a ball in LBSU's win over Pepperdine on Saturday inside the Walter Pyramid.

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